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An Historical Explication

What there is most remarkable in that Wonder of the World,

The FRENCH KING's ROYAL HOUSE

VERSAILLES,

And in that of Monsieur, at St. CLOVD.

Written in the French Tongue by the Sieur Combes, And now faithfully done into English.

Together with
A Compendious Inventory
OF THE

Treasury of S. Denis

Printed for Matthew Turner, near Turnftile in Holborn. 1684.



TO

MADAM

THE

Dolphinels.

MADAM,

A LL Europe looks
on Versailles as
the Wonder of the
World, and as the
most splendid Mark
A 3

of the Magnificence of our Great Monarch: It is what has given me the occasion of composing this Work, in order to make plain, as much as poffible, the Difficulties which have arisen betwixt some persons of Note, concerning the Explication which they made of the fubjects of Painting? which make the Ornament of the Seil-

ing-pieces & others; and of those of Sculpture, which embellish the Edifice, the Fountains, and the Garden-knots of this incomparable House. The Merit which all France admires in your Royal Person, and which gives you a lawful Right of deciding all that the Sciences, History, and Fable have of most A 4 hid-

hidden in them, has made me take the freedom of putting this Historical Explication under your protection; being withal perswaded, that a great Princess, as your self, Madam, always takes delight to hear speak of Great Men, and of Illustrious Women; the Vertues and Actions of whom, are but

but Shadows of those which are feen with more folidness in the Persons of our great King, and our great Queen. The August Rank which you hold, Madam, in the Royal Family, and those rare Qualities which render you fo dear to this Invincible Monarch, and which are at this day the Admiration of A 5 the

the World, and the Joy of France, make us believe that God has given you to it, in order to the continuance of its Happiness: And as the Dolphins appearing on the Sea, give there tidings of a Calm, which makes the Pilot hope for a happy success after a long Storm; even fo the two DOL-PHINS

PHINS which appear in FRANCE, have brought there Peace, and this happy Tranquillity, which it enjoys after so many Agitations, and make me hope that this little WORK will find a favourable Access to you, Madam; and that you will do me the favour to receive it as a Mark of the ProTo the Dolphiness.

Profound Respect, wherewith I am,

MADAM,

Your most Humble

and

most Obedient Servant,

COMBES.

IN-

INSTRUCTIONS

TOTHE

Reader.

OR a more clear understanding of the Explication of the Subjects of Painting, which compose this Work; you must know, that as the Sun makes the body of the Kings Device, and that Apollo and the Sun are the same thing; this deity is represent

fented in many places of Verfailles.

In the Garden near the Canal, at the Bason of Apollo, it's the Sun when he riseth, and seems to issue from the Sea.

At the Grotto's of Apollo, which are opposite to it, is the same Sun when he is setting in the bosom of Thetis, where he is washt, and refresht by the Nymphs, from the Labours which he has undergone during his course. In the Apartments of the House you will see him accompanied with all that has affinity with him.

On the Front of the House, which looks into the Garden, he divides the Year with Diana

his Sister, where they communicate their mild Influences to the Earth, that it may produce all

forts of Plants.

The Subjects of Painting which compleat the Ornament of the Seiling-pieces, are Hero's and Illustrious men, taken from History and from Fable, who have merited the titles of Generous and Great men, of Fathers of the People, of Liberal, Just, August; and Victorious Perjons, who have posses's all the Vertues which have been seen to appear with admiration in the Person of our Great Monarch; fince the happy course of his Reign: So that all that is seen of remarkable in the Honse and

in the Garden, has always a relation to the great Actions of his Majesty. It's for this reason that I have been obliged to make those acquainted with it that do

not know it.

The Subjects of the Paintings which are in the Queens Apartment, are taken from Illustrious women, who have had heroick Vertues, resembling those which eminently shine in our great Queen. I could have been more large than I am in the composition of this Work, but this would have too much imbroil'd the memory. It seems to me that a man does enough, if he retains that which is most remarkable in so great a number of fine things,

as there is in this Royal House.

I took the pains to give this Explication at the request of two Ladies of the Court, whose Quality is of the first Rank, and to whom I had the honour to discourse, as I was considering with them the Subjects of the Painting of the Seiling-pieces. At first the difficulty of succeeding in it presented it self to my understanding: nevertheless I e'en resolved to obey the Request of these Ladies, which ought to have on me the force of a Command, as well by reason of their great Quality, as through the power which the beautiful See has on the Understanding and Will of reasonable men. If I have done

ill,

Il, my Excuse is sufficient; and I hope that those who are the Censors of Works which appear in publick, will receive it as a Mark of my Submission, the designe of it being otherwise than to make my self an Author. He who lets slie an Arrow, if he strikes the middle of the Butt, has gotten the Prize.

Constitution of the state of

ment by the compact of the

300 to 100 to

APPROBATIONS.

TE subsigned, Pain-ters to the King, do certifie to have read and examin'd a Book entituled, An Historical Explication of what there is most remarkable in the Royal House of Versailles; in which we have found nothing but what is conformable to the Paintings. Given under our Hands, this. 30th of October 1681.

> COYPEL. PAILLETTE.

Approbations.

the King, do certifie to have read this present Book; in which there is nothing but what is conformable to the Subjects of Carving represented at Versailles. Given under our Hands, this second of November 1681.

REGNAUDIN. COYZEVOX.

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in to william

AN

HISTORICAL EXPLICATION
Of what is most Remarkable
IN THE

ROYAL HOUSE

OF

Mersailles,

the Prize and Garland which it has born away hitherto from all the Nations of the Earth, in what regards the excellency of Architecture, the beauty of Carving, the Magnificence of Painting, the Art of Gardening, the Structure of Fountains, and the invention of Aqueducts.

Versailles alone suffices to secure for ever to France the glory it has at present, in surpassing all other Kingdoms in the Science of Buildings: and it is beholding for this high esteem to the Grandeur and Magnificence of Louis the Great, its invincible Monarch.

This Magnanimous Prince has cherisht Arts even to so high a point, and has known so well to cultivate them among the noise of Arms, that Peace, which is the Mother both of Sciences and Arts, to testifie its gratitude, has built him the most magnificent Palace of the World; to the end it might there receive him, as it were in its-bosome, when he returns from his Enemies loaded with Laurels and Tropheys.

It's into this Royal and Charming House that you are invited to come, you people of the Earth, who are curious and learned: you

chall see there the ancient and the new Rome: you shall see there all that the world has ever had of beautiful and surprizing; admire there the Skill, the Knowledge, the Design, and the curiousness of the Workmen; admire there the Grandeur, the Sumptuousness, the Magniscence and the Liberality of the Prince; and own that Versailles eclipses all the inchanted Palaces of History and of Fable.

When you are at Versailles, and are come to the end of the great walk of Elms, it cannot be but he beautiful Aspect of the House will charm your Spirit, and seize all your Senses, and convert the orce of them all into the sight and

magination.

Pause you a little at the first Iron Grate of the Fore-court, to see here the two stonen Pieces; the one on the right of the house, representing the Victories of France

over Spain, denoted by the Lyon? and the other on the left, the Victo ries over Germany, denoted by the Eagle. The Sieur Girardon made the figure on the right, and the Sieur de Mercy that on the left. 18

From this Grate you pass as far as the gilded Grate, where you will see at the entrance a Sun of Gold on a Trophey of Arms, with two pieces of stonen Figures or the two fides: On the right it's A bundance, and on the left Peace who burns with a Torch a Trophy of Arms, and holds in her left hanc a Caduceum, which is the Symbo of Prudence, Eloquence, and Command.

When you have pass'd this gil ded Grate, turn on the left hand. you will see at the end of the righ Wing of the house, on six Pillars fix Deities, three of the Farth, and three of the Water.

The Deities of the Earth are Ce

res, who carries Ears of Corn; Flora, who carries Flowers; and Pomona Fruits.

The Deities of the Water, are Thetis and Galatea, with Neptune

in the midst.

When you have seen these six Statues, look afterward on your right, at the end of the lest Wing of the house, you will see on six Pillars six other Deities, three of the Air, and three of the Fire.

The Deities of the Air are Iris, who represents the Rainbow with her Vail, Juno with a Peacock by

her fide, and Zephirus.

The Deities of the Fire are Vulcan in the midst of Cyclopses, who

are Brontes and Steropes.

When these twelve Pagan Deities were set up, who represent the four Elements, regard was had to that place where are all the Offices of his Majesty belonging to the Mouth: the four Elements being B 3 those who by their mixture compose all the Food proper for nourishment; the Earth gives Flowers, Fruits, and Animals; the Water gives Fish; the Air furnishes Birds; and the good Fire acts the good Cook.

Advance your felf now as far as the Bason, which is in the middle of the little Gourt of the house, and look on the Pediment of the front of the house, you will see two

Figures.

The one, which is on the right, represents Hercules, or France, who reposes after having overcome the Hydra; that is to say, the great number of Enemies which it has defeated in these last Wars. The Hydra is denoted there by the Dragon; Spain by the Lyon; and all the other Forces by the Bull, which signifies also the River Rhine. Hercules overcame the River Achelous under the figure of a Bull, from which

which he took away a Horn, whence iffued Abundance: and our French Hercules having overcome the Forces of the Rhine, and the Rhine it self, there is come of it Peace and Abundance. This sigure was made by the Sieur Girardon.

And the other figure which is on the left, represents Mars or France victorious over Spain and Germany. This figure, was made by the Sieur de Marse.

by the Sieur de Mercy.

Under these two figures, on the Ballisters of the little house which faces the Court, you will see Eighteen figures of stone, each of eight foot in height, representing in general the Vertues of the King.

The first of the Nine which are on your left on the right Wing of the house is Victory, who holds with one hand a Garland of Laurels.

Made by the Sieur Sepingala.

The two that follow represent

B 4

Africa

Africa and America. Africa made by the Sieurs le Hongre, and Ame-

rica by the Sieur Regnaudin.

The fourth is Glory, who supports on her left Knee a Pyramid, and carries a Crown in her right hand. Made by the Sieur Regnandin.

Authority or Soveraign Power and Riches follow next, represented by Eagles, the Globe, and the Compass. Made by the Sieur le

Hongre.

The seventh figure represents Generosity, which is denoted by the Lyon, and Liberality by a Horn of Abundance, full of Riches, which it pours forth. Made by the Sieur le Gros.

The eighth, which represents
Strength, supports on its knee the
Basis of a Column, which is the
Symbol of Strength; she carries
the branch of an Oak, and is clad
with the skin of a Lyon, as Hercules;

cules. Made by the Sieur Coyzevox.

And the ninth, which denotes Abundance, supports a Horn of Abundance, and holds in her hand an Olive-branch, which signifies Peace, and which is always followed with Abundance. Mide by the Sieur de Mercy.

When you have considered all these. Statues, you must return towards the Front of the house whence you parted, to see the other Nine figures, which are on the Ballisters on the left Wing of the house, and answer to those which you came from feeing.

The first is Fame, who holds Trumpets. Made by the Sieur le

Comte.

The two that follow are Alia and Europe. Made by the Sieurs Masson and le Gros.

The fourth is an Abundance and Peace. Made by the Sieur Regnandin.

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The fifth is Diligence, who holds in her hand a branch of Thyme, and one of the Mulberry-tree, about which flies a Bee, which is the Symbol of Diligence; and the Mulberry-tree signifies the Silkworms, who are so diligent, that they never rest from the time of their birth even to their death, nay not even when they eat, their nourishment serving but to make the matter of their work. These Animals have three different forts of life: The first in Worms is creeping, and employ'd in labour; the fecond in Aying Butterflies, which is as it were Celestial, the Silkworms living then altogether in caresses and pleasures which they enjoy with their Females; and the third is in the beauty of their works of filk : which represents admirably well the three Ages of the diligent man. Made by the Sieur Rader.

The fixth figure signifies Prudence, who holds an Arrow compass'd about with a Serpent, the Hieroglyphick of Prudence. The Arrow signifies, that strokes performed with prudence are the most secure. Made by the Sieur Massion.

The seventh is Pallas, who has on the top of her Headpiece a head of a Horse: she is supported on a Shield where is seen a head of Medusa. Made by the Sieur

Girardon.

The eighth represents Justice, with a Sword in one hand, and a pair of Scales in the other. Made

by the Sieur Coyzevox.

And the ninth fignifies the richness of Buildings; the pours forth
with one hand all forts of Goods,
and with the other she holds the
Ground-plot of a Building. Made
by the Sieur de Mercy.

When you have considered all

these

these Figures, if you will enter into the Appartment of the Baths, you must pass through the door which is under the last Statue you saw. This apartment is dedicated to Magnissicence, and makes one of the seven Wonders of Versailles.

The first piece of the low Apartment of the Baths is remarkable for the Picture in the midst
of the Geiling, where there is represented a Flora: It will be changed, and in its place there will be
put a Mars, reposing himself from
the toils of War, from whom Venus takes the Helmet from off the
head, shewing him Peace, who
burns Arms, and about him many
Cupids who undress him. This Picture was made by the Sieur Pail

The second Piece of the low appartment of the Baths is also remarkable for the Picture in the midst of the Ceiling: There we

see Peace, who holds a Caduceum, and leans on Abundance; Victory who reposes herself, Architecture who presents a Ground plot, to signisie that Peace is the time proper for building. You may observe on the countenance of this Peace the Beauty, the bonne Grace, the Sweetness, the Vertue, and the Modesty of it. There are aside by Tempests and Storms, which Peace, who brings with it Sereneness and a Calm, drives away and makes to fly from it. This Picture was the work of the Sieur Boulongne.

The third Piece of the low apartment of the Baths is remarkable for eight Pillars of grey Marble, of the Dorick Order; and for four Statues of Marble, whereof the most considerable is that of Venus, which is a copy of the Venus of Medi-

cis.

The fifth Piece of the apartment of the Baths is considerable for eight

eight Pillars of a whitish grey Marble of the Ionick Order, and for four others of black Marble spotted with white: The Picture in the midst of the Gieling is a Diana on a Chariot drawn by Hinds with

Zephyrus's about it.

The fixth Piece of the apartment of the Baths is also considerable for the Picture in the midst of the Cieling which represents an Apollo driving away Tempelts and Storms by shooting Darts. By the Darts of Apollo are understood the Rays of the Sun, which distipate Clouds and Mists: This alludes to the King, who by his Prudence, Justice, and Power exterminates from his Kingdom the Errours, Crimes, and Seditions which Malice and Ignorance might there form. The Picture for the Chimney-piece is a Daphne, who being pursued by Apollo, is changed into a Laurel, after having triumph'd over this God. The

The seventh Piece of the apartment of the Baths is admirable: There is seen in the Picture of the midst of the Cieling a Venus, who is wash'd and perfum'd by the three Graces. The Picture which serves for the Chimney-piece is Vulcan, who presents to Venus the Arms of Aneas, which he made, and Cupid in the midst, who holds the Cutleas. There are in this Apartment six Pillars of grey Marble of the Corinthian Order. These two Pictures were made by the Sieur de Seve Tunior.

There are besides some other Apartments of the Baths which are not compleated. There are also the Queens Baths which sace the Garden: all this makes the First

wonder of Versailles.

When you have seen this last Apartment of the Baths, you must return back as you came, to make an end of admiring the Magnisi-

cence of these places, and ascend asterwards into the Kings Apartments, which are over the Baths, and which make the Second wonder of Versailles.

The Kings Apartment.

ments is considerable for a great number of excellent Pictures taken from History and from Fable. The Picture of the midst of the Cieling is a Venus crowned by the three Graces, subjecting to her Empire Deities and powerful persons: She is on a Chariot drawn by Doves; there are Cupids about it, and the leans on a Swan.

The Deities which the subjects to her Laws, are Mars who holds a Standart, Vulcan who carries a Hammer and a Helmet, Bacchus

who

who holds his Javelin adorned with Ivy, Jupiter with his Scepter and an Eagle, and Neptune with his Trident.

The powerful persons are sour Hero's, two of History, and two of Fable, represented in the sour Angles of the Cieling piece, in the form of Captives bound with Chains of Flowers. Those of History are Titus who married a Jewish Slave after the destruction of Jerusalem, and Mark Anthony with Cleopatra: and those of Fable, Jafon and Medea, Theseus and Ariadne.

The first Picture on the sides of the Geiling-piece opposite to the Windows, represents Nebuchodonozor, who caused the Gardens of Babylon to be raised after the resemblance of the Mountains of Media, in complaisance to the Queen his wife who was of that Country.

The

The second Picture towards the Stair-case is Augustus, who shows sports to the Romans, by the courses of Chariots within the Circus which he caused to be built.

The third Picture is Alexander, who espouses Roxana, by giving her a bit of bread after the fashion

of her Country.

The fourth is Cyrus, who gives a Princess the pleasure of seeing a Muster of his Troops. This Apartment was painted by the Sieur Honasse.

The second Piece.

The second piece of the Kings Apartment, called the Billiard-chamber, is very fine: we see there in the Picture of the middle of the Cieling the Moon under the figure of Diana, who presides over Navigation and Hunting: This Goddels is there represented on her Chariot

Chariot, accompanied with the hours of the Night, which are all her Daughters, and are about her Chariot, and have wings like Butterflies: Those which go before the Chariot represent the fresh hours of the Morning, which difill on the Earth the dew and the Flowers. That which holds the Clock marks the hour which calls us to our Labour. Behind the Chariot is the hour of rest which sleeps, whilst a little Cupid blows her the vapours of sleep and the fent of Poppies: by the side of her is the hour of waking, which ferves for Studies and Meditations: the holds a Lamp, and leans on Books.

by a woman on a Vessel, who holds the Helm and an Anchor; she is accompanied with Children, who holds what serves for Navigation.

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man who holds a Net which serves for taking Birds, accompanied with Children, whereof one holds a Hunting-horn, and the others Leasthes for Dogs.

And in the four Pictures of the four sides, there are seen Jason, who lands in Colchos, for the conquest of the Golden Fleece; Augustus, who sends a Colony to Carthage; Cyrus, who hunts Boars; and Alexander, who hunts Lyons. The Sieurs Blanchard, Auderan, and de la Fosse painted this Apartment.

The third Piece.

The third piece of the Kings Apartment is the Guard Hall, which
is one of the most remarkable:
There is seen in the Picture
of the middle of the Cieling
Mars on a Chariot drawn by
Wolves, which are dedicated to

this Pagan Deity by reason of their voracity; the Chariot is compast about with Genius's of War, who load themselves with Arms to follow him: there are three Cyclopses who seem to furnish them with them. In the ground of the Picture Saturn is thrown on his back by other Genius's of War, who take from him his Sythe, thereby to signifie that time cannot destroy nor obliterate the great actions of Hero's and Conquerours. History is by the fide of Saturn, who writes what is dictated to her by Fame, who goes before the Chariot of Mars.

In the second Picture of the Cieling-piece is represented Terrour accompanied with Fury and Anger, who push forward Fear and Paleness to fright the powers of the Earth. It was painted by the Sieur Houasse.

The third Picture of the Cieling-

piece represents Victory supported by Force, under the figure of Hercules accompanied with Prudence and Liberality: There are also some Genius's who dispute betwixt them concerning Crowns.

In the same Hall there are fix

bas Reliefs heightned with Gold.

In the first opposite to the window, on the Corniche, is represented Casar, who sets his Army in order before he begins a fight.

In the second over the windows is represented Mark Anthony, who makes Albinius Consul. two bas Reliefs were painted by the

Sieur Jouvenot.

In the third is represented the degradation of an Officer in the face of an Army, by Alexander Severus.

In the fourth, which is Oval, on the side of the Kings Apartment, is represented the Triumph of constantine. These were painted by the Sieur Honasse. In

In the fifth, at the other end of the Hall, is represented Cyrus set-

ting his Army in order.

And in the fixth is represented Poliorcettus, who forces a Town. The Sieur Auderan painted these two last.

The fourth Piece.

The fourth piece of the Kings Apartment is charming: the Pi-Aure of the middle of the Cieling represents Mercury on a Chariot drawn by Cocks: By the fide of the Chariot is seen Vigilance, who holds a Crane; this bird is the Symbol of it, because that when Cranes fleep in companies in any place, there is always one that keeps centry with one foot raised, wherein it hold a Stone, to the end that when sleep seizes him, the Stone may awake him by falling. Vigilance carries small Wings on her head,

head, to shew that a Wing is a companion of diligence. The Morning-star goes before the Chariot, it's a Cupid who has a Star on his head, with a Trumpet in his hand, to mark that he proclaims the day: This Chariot is encompassed with Cupids, who represent the Arts and Sciences; it passes through the Zodiack, where are the Signs that belong to this Planet. It's the work of the Sieur Champagne.

The Pictures of the sides of the Cieling-piece which have relation to Mercury are of subjects of Lear-

ning and Eloquence.

That which is over the Windows represents Alexander the Great, when he caused many kinds of Animals to be brought, to the end that the Philosopher Aristotle might discourse of their nature, and make Anatomical Administrations of them.

The second is Augustus, who receives

ceives an Embassie of Indians, where a Philosopher called Calanus, after that he had made him his speech, put himself on a Funeral-pile and burnt himself, to shew his constancy, and at the same time honour to this Emperour. Probably this Philosopher, in doing this action, broke an earthen Vessel which could not serve much longer.

The third which is opposite to the Windows, is *Ptolomy* King of Egypt, who causes a Library to be built; he is accompanied with Philosophers and other learned per-

fons.

The fifth Piece.

The fifth piece, which is the Kings Chamber, is one of the fair-elt.

There is seen in the Picture of the middle of the Cieling Apollo on

a Chariot, drawn by four Horses; he is accompanied with the four Seasons: You may observe among others the old man who represents Winter, having Fire between his legs. Near the Chariot appear Magnanimity and Magnificence, with France, which relies on the cares of the Sun, which is the Hieroglyphick of the King.

The four Pictures which are over the great Cornich represent Augustus, who causes a Port to be

made at Messina near Naples.

Vespasian, who causes to be built

the Amphitheater of Rome.

Coriolanus, who raised the Siege before Rome, at the request of his Mother.

And Porus King of India, who is presented full of Wounds to A.

The Pictures of the four corners of the Chamber represent the four parts of the World, where Fame

car-

carries the reputation of the Kings Arms. This Chamber was painted by the Sieur de la Fosse.

The Third Wonder.

The third Wonder of Versailles is the great Marble Stair-case, which eclipses all that Greece and Italy have ever had of wonderful: For besides the Gold and the Azure which shine there from all parts, the work surpasses in it the matter. M. le Brun, whom we may call the most excellent Painter of the age; painted the Cieling piece.

We see there among other things, the Nations of the Four parts of the World, who admire the beauty of Versailles, and the heroick Exploits of our Great Monarch; andon their part, they draw on themselves the admiration of all that are curious and learned, to beautiful and natural they are.

The

The Queens Apartments.

He Queens Apartments make the third wonder of Versailles: you may see there all that Painting has of most specious, delicate, and magnificent.

The first Piece.

The first piece of these Apartments, called the Billiard chamber, is remarkable for the Pictures: In that of the middle of the Cieling is represented Jupiter, having by his side Justice and Piety, with Sagittarius and Pisces, which are the signs of the Zodiack that belong to Jupiter. This Picture was made with much study and care by the Sieur Coipel.

The first of the Pictures over

the Cross works represents solon, who having given Laws to the Athenians, maintains them against their objections.

In the second Picture which is opposite to the Chimney is represented Trajan, who receives Addresses from all the Nations of the world, whom we fee distinguish'd by the diversity of their Habits.

In the third by the fide of the Chimney is represented Ptolomy Philadelphus, who in consideration of the Laws of Moses sent him with Interpreters by the Soverain Prelate of the Jews, gives liberty to all the Jewish slaves that are within his Kingdom: History computes Six score thousand.

And the fourth is the Emperour Severus, who causes Corn to be distributed to the people of Rome

during a great Famine.

Over the Chimney is painted a Picture representing a Sacrifice 13 . 2 ?

made

made to Jupiter on the Mountain Lyceus, which was made for the fertileness of the earth 5 the Priest is there served by Virgins, who are there represented.

Opposite to the Chimney in the Gieling, is a Picture where is represented fupiter, who after his birth was brought up by the Curetes and Coribantes, and carried into Candia; he is carried by two Nurses, who with their Attendants withdraw him from the sury of Saturn, who is in an other place, and devours a stone.

In the four corners are painted subjects, which relate to those of the Pictures within the Frames.

In the first is Justice reward-

In the second is represented fu

stice punishing.

In the third are represented subjects of Piety; in the first they are Slaves who receive marks of their liberty. And And in the fourth are represented two Figures extenuated with hunger, to which are presented Fruits by some Children, who may be taken for the Children of Piety.

In the ground of these Angles is painted a fort of Gallery, where many persons walk who admire the Magnificence of this place.

These principal subjects are represented as it were in Sculpture.

The Second Piece.

The second piece is the Queens Antichamber, where is seen in the Picture of the middle of the Cieling Mars with Capricornus and scorpio, which are the signs of the Zodiack that belong to him. Made by the Sieur Vignon.

The Pictures of the fides are painted all of one colour, heightn'd

with Gold.

C 4 The

The first, which is at the Front of the entrance of the Hall, represents the Oath of Rhodogune, when she was given to understand, being at her Toilette, of the death of her Husband, where she swore that she would never make an end of putting on her Headclothes till she had revenged it. Painted by the Sieur Vignon.

The second, which is over the Windows, represents Harpalice daughter of Harpalus, whom she sees from the hands of his Enemies, who lead him Prisoner. Made

by the Sieur Vignon.

The third is a colour'd Picture with a ground of Gold, where is represented Bellona, who burns with a Torch the face of Cybele, and makes love fly into the Heavens; which signifies, that War, after having trampled on and spoil'd the Earth, drives thence the God of Love, who takes no delight there

there but when it is in peace and pleasures. Made by the Sieur Vigenon.

There are besides four Pictures drawn all of one colour, heightned with a lively Gold-colour, and a sifth in colours with a ground of Gold. Painted by the Sieur Pail-lette.

Over against the Windows there

are three.

The first, which is near the Corner, represents Artemisia, Wise of Mausolus, a most generous Queen, who fought on the Vessels of Xerxes King of Persta against the Greeks, where Themistocles commanded: This Queen is she, who swallowed in her drink by little: and little the Ashes of her Husband: Her generosity led her to serve in the Army of Xerxes without being any way obliged to it: Her Councel and Prudence were greatly esteemed by this great King. CS Thole

Those who know how to love after the manner that this great Queen loved, cannot but be perfons of a good Judgement and of a great Courage; the excellency of the Soul shews it self by a disinteressed love, which is always the same, though death has taken away the object. This is taken from

the History of Herodotus.

The second is a round Picture in colours, with a ground of Gold, which represents Fury and War, by a Woman armed, who holds with one hand a Sword, and with the other a Torch; and by a man, who holds a little Tavelin or Dart, which burns at one of its ends; he is in a posture of throwing it towards the Enemies, casting at them as it were the fire of War. It was after that manner that the Romans declared War to their Enemies, while the Prielts made imprecations in the Temple of Janus.

The

The third which follows represents Zenobia, who fights against the Emperour Anrelian. This is taken from the Roman Histo-

Over the door at entrance is Hypsecratea the Wife of Mithridates, who follows him in his Wars, and never forfook him in all his adversities and disgraces, where in despite of his valour, he was fore'd any way to fall under the fortune of the Romans: Her generous and grateful love rendred her worthy of being the Wife of so great a King as Mithridates was.

The fifth following over the Windows near the corner is Clelia, who passes the Tyber with her Companions, having made her escape from the hands of King Porcenna, who kept her in hostage. The vertue which this Girl shew'd in this rencounter, and the firmness and courage of Mutius Scevo-

la, were such amazing actions, that they obliged him to raise the Siege from before Rome.

The third Piece.

The third piece of these Apart. ments of the Queen is remarkable: there is seen in the midst of the Cieling-piece Mercury, who fends his Influences on the Arts and Sciences, represented by Women. who are about him, carrying each their Attributes in their hands.

The first Picture of the sides, to wit, that which is betwixt the Crosles of the Windows, represents Cescene, famous in the Art of Paint-

ing.

The second Picture, which is opposite to the Crosses, represents Penelope, who works on a Tapistry. work.

Penelope was the Wife of Uly ses, who continued ten years at the Siege

Siege of Troy; and when he was upon his return for feeing again his dear Spouse, he was so strangely crost, and had so many intricate accidents to wade through, that in despite of him, he was ten years more before he could fee again his Country; so that it was believed he was cast away at sea: Mean while Love whispered secretly in the heart of Penelope, and made her hope for the return of her dear Ulyffes: And to amuse those who presid her to marry again, she promis'd them, that affoon as she had made an end of the Tapistry, work which she had begun, she would resolve to take a Husband in the place of Vly ses; but in the night-time she had Girls who unravelled what she had done the day before: After. this manner her fidelity held out to the twentieth year, at which time her Soul was filled with joy, on the return of her dear Ulysses 3 and

and then she tasted the pleasures of true Lovers, when they come to see each other again after a long absence.

The third over the Chimney is Sapho playing on her Harp and finging.

The fourth is Aspasia conversing

with Philosophers.

The two Pictures which are over the doors represent Vigilancy and Diligence; and those that are opposite to them are an University, and Commerce.

The fourth Piece.

The fourth piece of these Apartments, which is the Queens Dressing-room, painted by the Sieur le Seve Senior, is very curious. There is seen in the great Picture in the midst of the Cicling, of an octangular sigure, the Sun, which diffuses its light on the Four parts of the

the World, represented by Four Women.

Europe, which is there painted the most beautiful, appears to be charmed with the Graces which accompany this beautiful Planet. She has on her fides two Loves, whereof the one pours from an Horn of abundance Flowers and Fruits on the Earth; and the other holds a Caduceum and Books, to shew that Arts and Sciences flourish more in Europe than in all the other parts of the World. We see there Anrora, under the figure of a beautiful Nymph, who strews Flowers on the Earth in the fight of the Sun who colours them. There is feen also the break of the Day, under the figure of a Child, who carries a Torch in its hand: The hours, to the number of Twelve, are there represented by Twelve beautiful Girls, whereof some hold each other by the hand following the

Horses in his Chariot; the whole

in an open and luminous Sky.

The first of the four Pictures of the sides represents the Feast of Cleopatra Queen of Egypt, who looks on Mark Anthony as she is dissolving in a Cup a Pearl of an inestimable price: It being the pleasure of this Princess to surpass thereby Mark Anthony in sumptuousness and magnificence.

The second Picture is Dido, who examines the Ground-plot of the Town of Carthage, which she caused to be built: There is by her side Petrual, an excellent Architect, who explains the design to

her.

The third Picture represents Rhodope, an Illustrious Woman of Egypt, and of an exquisite Beauty, who to immortalize her self, caused the fairest Pyramids of Egypt to be raised.

The .

The fourth Picture is Nicterix, who was the second Woman that governed the Empire of the Assyrians and Babylonians, about five years after Semiramis; she divided Euphrates into many Channels.

The fifth Wonder.

The fifth Wonder of Versailles is the Gallery of Monsieur le Brun, first Painter to the King, and head of the Royal Academy of Painters. This Callery is not yet fini. shed, it will be in a little time; M. le Brun has there surpast himself in the design and project which he has made in it: There is not any Figure which is not a Master piece of art: this admirable man, whom we ought to place in the rank of Raphaels and Michael-Angelo's, takes a grand care to represent there the high Exploits and Heroick Actions

The entry of the Garden.

N entring into the Garden by the Eutry, where you will observe twenty four Pillars of a most beautiful Marble: See afterward the three Fronts of the House, which are adorned with most excellent Statues.

The chief Front which regards the Canal, is adorned with three ranks of Pillars, on which you will fee the twelve Moneths of the year represented by twelve Figures of stone, each having by its side one of the Signs of the Zodiack, which divide the year into twelve parts. Beginning with the month of March according to the order of the four Seasons; its on the rank which presents it self on your right hand:

hand:Pallas is the first, accompanied with the Nymphs Dryades and Haenadryades, who have care of the Flowers, Fruits, and Meadows. The Ram is by the side of Pallas, which denotes the month of March, the Bull April, the Twins May, and

the Crab June.

On the middle rank there are fix Figures, whereof the two of the middle represent two Planets, the Sun and the Moon, under the figures of Apollo and Diana. The Sun and the Moon are very properly plac'd there, in regard that the Sun makes the body of the Kings devise, and Diana that of the Queen, which are the two Planets who govern with the same Justice and Equanimity, as the Sun and the Moon observe in their courses; with this difference, that Diana in the heavens suffers sometimes Eclipses, but our Diana has never any, her brightness being always The equal.

The months of July, August, September, and October, are there represented by the Lyon, the Virgin, the Scales, and the Scorpion, which are on the sides of these Statues.

On the third rank follow the months of November, December, January, and February, denoted by Sagittarius, Capricornus, Aquarius,

and the Fishes.

Afterwards you must see the Front which saces the Reservers of Waters, and all the Pumps which distribute them, where there are likewise three ranks of Pillars, with four Figures on each rank. The first, which are near the Corner of the House, represent two Gods of Rivers, & two Nymphs of Fountains. Those of the middle rank represent the Genius who preside over the joy and pleasures of good cheer.

Comus, who is the God of

Treats.

Bacchus, who furnishes the Wine.

And the Goddess Ceres the Bread.

These four Statues were set in this place by reason of the Hall for Feasting, which is on that part.

On the third rank are represented the Nymph Echo, who was changed into a Rock; Narcissus with whom she was in love: Thetis, and Galatea, who has a Dolphin at her feet.

In the two Niches which are beneath are two Figures representing Ganimedes, and the Nymph Hebe,

who fill Liquors to the Gods.

At the Front, which looks toward the Orange-grove, there are also three ranks of Pillars with twelve Figures: In the design, regard was had to the Fruits and Flowers which are on that side, and to the Hall for acting Plays: For this reason on the first rank are sour

Fi-

Figures, who preside over Fruits: Pomona, who is the Goddess of Fruits; Vertumnus, who is her Lover; one of the Nymphs Hesperides, having by her one of the Orange-trees laden with golden Oranges, which was guarded by a Dragon, and the Nymph Amalthea.

On the middle Pillars is reprefented the Muse Thalia, who presides over fine Plays; Momus, who presides over the art of Bussioning; Terpsicore the Muse, who leads the serious Dance; and the God Pan, the Author of the Grotesque dance.

In the third rank is represented the Goddes Flora, Zephyrus who is her Lover, whom you will know by his Wings like Butterslies, and by the Cloud which he has by his sides. The other two Figures are Hyacinthus the favourite of the Sun, and Clytia the Loveress of the

Sun,

Sun, who was chang'd into the Sun-flower, and Hyacinthus was changed into a Flower of the same name.

In the two Niches which are beneath, there are two figures, whereof the one represents Musick, and the other Dancing.

Grotto's.

You may go streight to the Grotto's of Apollo, which you will find on your right hand beneath the House.

In the Grotto in the middle Apollo is seen when he sets in the bosom of Thetis, with six Nymphs,
who wash themselves. The Sieur
Girardon made Apollo, with the
three Nymphs that are before him;
and the others were made by the
Sieur-Regnaudin.

In the Grotto's of the two fides are the Horses of Apollo: In that

on the right hand there is Aeis who plays on the Flute; and in that on the left Galathea. The Sieur Baptiste Thuby made these two Figures; the Horses and the Tritons were made by the Sieurs de Mercy and Guerin.

Galathea was the Daughter of Nereus a Sea-god, and of the Nymph Doris.

Acis was the Son of Faunus, God of the Forrests, and of the

Nymph simathis.

Galathea lov'd Acis with a great tenderness, by reason of his great merit, and of the Sympathy which was betwixt them; and she was belov'd by the Cyclops Polyphemus, the ugliest and most disagreeable of the Cyclopses, who being grown Jealous, dasht Acis to pieces with a great Rock.

On the Terrass by the side of theseGrotto's there is a Bason, where is seen a Triton and a Tritoness with

some Children of gilt Metal. Made by the Sieur de Mercy.

Fountains.

Beneath in the Garden-knot there are two Fountains, in each of which are seen four Tritons and Tritonesses, who support a Royal Crown with Garlands. The whole made by the Sieurs Baptiste Thuby

and le Hongre.

You may go afterward to the Pyramidal Fountain, which was made by the Sieur Girardon; it has four Water-works in the form of a Table-cloath: The first and greatest is born up by four Lyons-paws, and supported by four Tritons gift and crown'd with Ivy: The second Table-cloath Water-work is supported by four young Tritons gilt, having two Tails: The third by four Dolphins also gilt: And the fourth by four Crabs of cast Cop-

per .

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per. This Fountain will be your guide as you walk in the Garden.

The Water walk.

The Water-walk is that where you will see two ranks of Basons and Fountains, born by Children of cast Copper gilt. Made by the Sieurs le Rembert, le Gros, and le

Hongre.

At the head of this Water-walk there is a great square Bason where Women are seen bathing themselves under a great Water-work in the form of a Table-cloath, which supplies them in abundance. It's the Sieur Girardon who made the great bas Relief of the Women bathing themselves. The right side of the Bason is the work of the Sieur le Gros: and the lest side that of the Sieur le Hongre.

On each side of the Water-

walk

walk there are seven distinct pieces of work composed of Children.

The two first represent two young Tritons, who carry great Shells in the form of Basons full of Coral, and of divers forts of Shells.

The second are three young Children who carry a Bason fill'd

with divers Fruits.

The third are two Amours, in the midst of them is a young Girl, who support together a Basket full of Flowers.

The fourth are three young Children who carry a Bason fill'd with Fruits.

The fifth are three other Children leaning against a Pedestal, on which is a Bason: They hold Drums, Flutes, and Flageletts.

The fixth are three little Satyrs who have on their heads Baskets

full of Fruits.

The seventh are young Armless
Figures, which have but half the
D 2 body

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body to the life, the rest terminates it self below in the form of a little stool.

At the bottom of the Water-walk is the Fountain of the Dragon. Made by the Sieur de Mercy.

The fixth Wonder.

Below the Pyramidal Fountain you will find the Triumphal Arch, which is in the middle of a Wood: It's the fixth Wonder of Versailles; it is all of Iron or east Copper gilt, with seventeen Gascades which encompass it. There are seen on the two sides of this Triumphal Arch two fine Waterworks in the form of a Tablecloath, on Pedestals; and before it a large space with four Obelisks or Pyramids. There are on the two sides of this spacious place two fair Fountains, of a Pyramidal figure; and

and on each fide of these Fountains a Bason or Table-cloath Water-work on little Stools of white Marble. At the surthermost ends of this wide space opposite to the Triumphal Arch, there are more-over on the two sides two Basons on Pedestals, which answer to the two Basons which are on the two sides of the Triumphal Arch, with a fine Water fall: at the bottom is Victory, who saces the Triumphal Arch.

As you come forth of the Wood, where the Triumphal Archis, you will pass athwart the Water-walk, and after having admired the Fountains, you enter into the Wood, which is on the left hand, and you will finde the three Fountains; it's a place proper to pass melancholy thoughts in.

From the Wood of the three Fountains, you will enter just a-gainst it into another little Wood,

D 3

where

where there is an Oak in the midst of a Marsh full of Reeds, with Swans in it. This Oak casts forth Water from all the ends of its branches; the Reeds do the like, and

the Swans perform their office.

At the two ends of the Wood there are two great Tables of an oval figure of white Marble, supported by four Pedestals, being four Corbels of green Marble: On each Table there is a Balket of cast Copper gilt, fill'd with Flowers according to the life, from which iffues a great spout of Water, which falls back into it, and loses it self there, without wetting the Table.

On the fides of the Walks are feen also two great Tables of white Marble, where is made a fort of Cup-board; they are supported by four Corbels which terminate in Lyons paws. On these Tables many Water-pipes are seen to spout up Water, the fall of which makes

Table-

Table-cloath Water-works, which fall back again by Caskades as far as the Table without wetting it: the Water which issues forth after divers manners forms Vessels, &c. which seem to be of Rock-chrystal

garnisht with gilt plate.

When you have seen the Oak, you enter into the Wood which is below it; you will finde there a Theatre; it is so called because the Water plays there in several manners. It is called also the Triumph of Love, where there are very fine Water-falls adorned with small

rocky pieces.

At the head of the middle Water fall you will see a Cupid, who personates the figure of Jupiter, holding Thunder bolts in his hand; he is seated on an Eagle, and plac'd on a terrestrial Globe: under the seet of the Eagle there is a Grown, a Royal Scepter, and a divine Scepter: the Thunder bolts themselves.

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felves of Jupiter make one part of the Trophy of Love, whose Soveraign Empire extends it self on the Earth, within the Sea, and within the Heavens.

On the right hand of Soveraign Love there is a Martial or War faring Love, seated on the neck of a Lyon, which bites and throws on the ground a Wolf, to shew that Love and Generosity surmount very often, and put a sudden stop to the ravages of the Wolf, denoted by War: the whole is on a Trophy of Arms, where there is a Hercules Club.

On the left hand is seen a Neptunian Love, who commands the Sea, and gives us the riches of Commerce, represented by a Cupid seated on two great mastiff Dogs, which he holds tied in Chains on a Vessel full of Riches turn'd upside down.

After that you have seen what is

in these four little Woods, you may continue your way along the Walk, where there is at one of its ends, whence you parted, the Fountain of the Pyramid which you have seen already, and you will find in the chief Avenues four Fountains, which represent the four Seasons of the year.

The Fountain of Ceres.

You will meet with in one of the avenues the Fountain of Ceres, who represents Summer: this Goddess is in the midst of a Bason; she is accompanied with eight Amours, and holds a Reaping-hook in her hand: there are seen round her Bason Sheaves of Corn; Flowers, Pidgeons, Rats, and other Animals, which ordinarily eat Corn. The whole is very well gilt; and if you are so curious to look under these Sheaves, you will certainly D 5

58 An Historical Explication find there Ants. The whole made by the Sieur Regnaudin.

The Fountain of Flora.

In the middle of one of the avenues you will find the Fountain of Flora, who represents the Spring; and just by it a Hall for Treats in the midst of a little Grove. Made by the Sieur Baptiste Thuby.

The Seventh Wonder.

When you have seen the Fountain of Flora, you will enter in at a Grate where is the Fountain of Fame, which makes the seventh Wonder of Versailles; you are invited to see it before you go to the two other Fountains.

The Fountain of Fame,

The Fountain of Fame is in the

midst of a Wood; its a great Bafon inclosed within two Ballistrings; the first of white Marble
with ballisters of Iron gilt and graved, all adorned with leav'd Branches: And the second all of cast
Copper, also gilt and graved. In
the middle of the Bason Fame is
seen, which is a great Statue of
Metal gilt on a terrestrial Globe;
the whole on gilded Palm-trees.

On the two sides of this Fountain there are two marble Summer-houses covered with cast Copper, adorn'd with Garlands of Fruits and Flowers in imbost work, and with Cupids gilt; and round about the Fountain there are ten Statues, or, to speak more properly, their Models: We give not here the explication, because the Kings pleasure is not known thereon. The Fountain was made by the Sieur de Mercy.

The Sieur Girardon, one of the Kings

Kings Engravers, gave the design and the Models of all the Trophies of Arms which are about the Fountain of Fame, as well of those which are of cast Copper gilt, as of those which are in bas Relief on white Marble; and he made the fourth part of them, the rest were made by the Sieurs Masseline, Gavon and Raon.

These Trophies are composed of all the Arms which every Nation makes use of, with Crowns which are given for a recompence to Martial valour: All these sorts of Arms serve as an ornament to the Victories, Triumphs, and Glo-

ry of our great Monarch.

There is seen in this same Wood Enceladius, a Giant that threw Rocks against Jupiter, who buried him under the same Rocks wherewith he had fought against Heaven.

As you come forth of the Wood, where

where is the Fountain of Fame, you will return to the Fountain of Flora: if you are a weary, you will find feats of Marble which will invite you to rest your felf.

Look afterward along the Walk, you will see the two other Fountains: the first you come to, represents Winter or Saturn. Made by

the Sieur Girardon.

But before you come to this Fountain of Saturn, you will meet the Royal Walk, and turning on your right hand you will see the Canal which represents the Sea.

The Fountain of Apollo.

Near the Canal you will see the Fountain of Apollo, which is all of Metal.

Round about this Fountain near the Canal, are plac'd eight Statues of Stone, made by the Sieur le Rembert: they are Satyrs, and Bac-

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Bacchants; they are made for humour, and to serve as an ornament

to this great Bason.

And on the Canal you will see also a Vessel of a high Deck, with three or four others of divers kinds, two Venetian Gondola's, a Neapolitan Felucca, and many other Vessels; so that this place of the Canal represents a Sea port. There are seen Sea horses of metal which seem to swim. Apollo signifies here the Sun rising, and in the Grotto's the Sun setting.

The Fountain of Saturn.

After you have seen the Canal, you must return as far as the Walk whence you came, where by taking on the right hand you will come to the Fountain of Saturn; the Bason is adorn'd with all sorts of Shellworks: there is seen in the middle Saturn accompanied with ma-

of Versailles.

ny Cupids gilded, who are busied in making a good fire.

The Water-Gallery.

By the side of the Fountain of Saturn we find the Water Gallery, where there are one and twenty Statues of ancient Marble, made at Rome by most skilful Artists.

The Eleven Statues of the First Rank.

The first Rank begins by the figure which represents a Vestal Nun.

The second, a Bacchus.

The third, a Cybele.

The fourth, the Father Silenus.

The fifth, another Vestal.

The fixth, a Meleager the hun-

The seventh, a Sylvanus. The eighth, a Gleopatra.

The

an Astorical Explication

The ninth, a little Goddess of Revenge.

The tenth, Ceres.

The eleventh, Pandora, who open'd the box where were the Felicities which returned to heaven, there remaining in the box nought but Miseries.

The Ten Statues of the Second Rank.

After having ended the fust Rank, the second begins, whereof the first figure is salmacis the Her-

maphrodite.

The second, Mercury, who cuts off Argus's head, after having lain him asseep with his Flute, that he might carry away Io, changed into a Heiser, whereof Argus was the Guardian appointed by Juno, who chang'd him into a Peacock after his death.

The third, Bacchus.

The fourth, Psyche.

The fifth is a figure representing Lentinus, a beautiful young man, who was belov'd of the Emperour Comodus.

The fixth, a Faunus in a disguise of Bacchus.

The seventh, Pomona.
The eighth, alittle Sylvanus.
The ninth, a Minerva.
The tenth, a Bacchus.

The Fountain of Bacchus, or of Autumn,

As you part from the Fountain of Saturn, turn on the left, you will find the Fountain of Bacchus, or of Autumn.

This Fountain abounds with great black Grapes, which make he mouth water. You may observe there en passant, that in Versailles there are two places where we lick our lips without swallowing any thing; the one is at this

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Fountain, and the other is within the Apartments of the house, where the Goddesses and Nymphs are, who discover to you all their beauties with great advantage. Made by the Sieur de Mercy.

The Labyrinth.

Near the Fountain of Bacchus we find the Labyrinth, where there are all forts of Animals, representing the Fables of Æsope, and casting forth Water after divers manners. Made by divers Carvers.

byrinth, when a person is very much strayed in it, that he has lost the Idea of the ways; and above all, when we do not find an Ariadne to give us a Clew of thred to guide us forth. It must be owned that this daughter of Minos was very generous to help her Lover, not onely to the means of getting

out of the Labyrinth, but moreover to follow him her felf in his flight, so far, till this ungrateful man left her all alone in a defart Island. The Fable is remarkable in this, that the god Bacchus happily arriving in this Island, and finding there this unfortunate perfon, he delivered her not onely from the danger wherein she was, but moreover married her, and made her his lawful Wife; which shews us, that a good turn is never lost; and that if it be not recompensed by men, it never fails of being so by God.

But that you may not go astray. in this Labyrinth, but may easily come forth, I give you in order the names of the Fables which are represented, that this may serve you as a guide and Clew of thread to avoid passing twice by the same

place.

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The Fables which are within the Labyrinth.

The first Fable, is that of the Horn-aml and of the Birds.

The second, the Cock and the Patridge.

The third, the cock and the

The fourth, the Cock and the

The fifth, the Catchung and the

The fixth, the Eagle and the

The seventh, the Jaye and the Peacock,

The eighth, the Cock and the Turkey cock.

The ninth, the Peacock and the

Pye.

The tenth, the Serpent, the An-

eleventh, the Ape and its

The twelfth, the combat of Animals.

The thirteenth, the Hen and Chicken.

The fourteenth, the Fox and the Crane.

The fifteenth, the Crane and the Fox.

The fixteenth, the Peacock and the Nightingale.

The seventeenth, the Parrot and

the Ape. we will be and is De

The eighteenth, the Ape Judge.

The ninteenth, the Rat and the Frog.

The twentieth, the Hare and the Tortoife. ... 110 Trans

The twenty first, the Wolf and the Crane.

The twenty second, the Kite and 7 2 44.

the Birds.

The twenty third, the Ape King. The twenty fourth, the Fox and the He-goat. and half or inte

The twenty fifth, the Councel of Rats. The

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The twenty fixth, the Ape and the Cat.

The twenty seventh, the Fox and the Grapes.

The twenty eighth, the Eagle,

the Rabbet, and the Beetle.

The twenty ninth, the Wolf and the Porcupine.

The thirtieth, the Serpent with

many heads.

The thrty first, the young Monse. the Cat, and the Wagoner.

The thirty second, the Kite and the Pidgeons.

The thirty third, the Dolphin

and the Ape.

The thirty fourth, the Fox and the Crow.

The thirty fifth, the Swan and

the Crone.

The thirty fixth, the Wolf and the Head.

The thirty seventh, the Serpent and the Porcupine.

When you are come forth of

the Labyrinth, turn you on your right hand till you are come in fight of the house, you will see the Garden plot called the green Turfs, or the Horse-shoe: there is in the middle of it a great Bason with a figure of white Marble, which represents Latona, with Apollo and Diana her two Children. This Statue was made by the Sieur de Mercy: I believe you will judge it, with me, one of the best pieces of Versailles: there are in the Bason Peasants changing into Frogs.

It cannot be but you must be weary at present; rest you a little on the green Turfs, and in the mean while I am going to relate to you the story of Latona, which some amongst you there may have

read.

The Story of Latona,

Latona was a Mistress of Jupiter; she had by this god Apollo and Diana. This Goddess on a day flying from the jealous rage of Juno the Wife of Jupiter, found her self so tir'd with the way, and so altered, that desiring to refresh her felf, she was constrained in this severe necessity to beg of some Peasants to help her to somewhat to drink water out of in the Marshes of Lycia; but these Rusticks were not content barely to deny her, but they farther hindred her from drinking with her Hands, troubling the Water with Stones and a great number of Clots of earth, which they threw into it over a Hedge. This cruel dealing urged Latona to beg of Jupiter to chastise the insolence of those rascally people: The incenfed God heard heard the prayers of his abused Mistress, and at the very instant changed those barbarous Peasants

into Frogs.

In truth a man must be very muck a Boor, not to pay a respect to Beauty, especially to that which is caress'd and dearly belov'd by a Soveraign: and it's to be in a good way of becoming a Frog, to forget a mans self to such a degree.

After that you have seen all that there is in the Garden-plot of the Horse-shoe, you may see the Garden-plot of Water, where will be plac'd twenty eight Statues of white Marble, which the King has caus'd to

be made.

As you go to it you must ascend by the stair case, where there is on each side a sphynx of white marble, with a Cupid of cast Copper over it.

The explication of the Sphynx.

Seneca in his Oedipus, and in his Thebaids says, that it was a Mon-

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ster which appeard as far as the breast like a Virgin; it had the body of a Bird, the soot and grasp of a Lyon; it liv'd in a Mountain near Thebes in Thessaly. He says that this Monster was the terrour of the Peasants, whose cruelty was to continue till some person was found who could explain the sollowing Riddle.

The Riddle of the Sphynx.

He askt of all the Inhabitants, and of all the Peasants, what Animal it was which in the Morning went on four feet, at Noon on two, and in the Evening on three? This Riddle was at last explained by Oedipus, son of Laims King of Thebes, who told him, That this Animal was Man, who in his Infancy, that is to say, the Morning of his life, goes on four feet; at his Noon, that is to say, in his strength, he goes with two feet; and in his

old age with three feet; the third foot being the Staff with which he

supports himself.

The History which gave occasion to this Fable, is that of Cadmus King of Thebes, who had for his first Wife an Amazon, that is to fay, a Warlike woman; this Woman was unfaithful to him; and this King had a second, which afterward accompanied him in all his adversities, and was changed (as the Fable says) into a Serpent with her Husband; that is to say, she crept on the earth in the lowness of her Husbands fortune with great prudence, and was faithful to him even till death.

The first Wise of Cadmus, which was called Sphynx, assoon as the knew that Cadmus had taken another Wise, carried away the greatest part of his treasures, and a Dog which was very cruel to men; with this booty she withdrew her-

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felf into this Mountain near Thebes, where with the forces which she had gathered together, and with the Dog, she prepared Ambushes all the hours of the night for Cadmus or for his people, and did him great damages. Those of Thebes called these Ambushes Riddles, because they were hidden; so that it was said,

Argiva Sphynx nos, anigma quod-

dam proponens, diripit.

That is to say, the sphynx in proposing to us her Riddles, carries away always a great many of our people. This is what Palephatus says in his Tract, as giving too light credit to fabulous Stories.

The two Sphynx's which are at Versailles have half of the body of a Woman, who wears a Royal band, whereby the force of Arms is denoted: the other half is the body of a Lyon who hides his

Paws, on which a Cupid is set. All this signifies the force of Kings, which being joyned with Prudence and with Love, makes the King invincible. By the Lyon who hides his Paws is signified, that Kings must hide their warlike Designs and Enterprises, the nature of the Lyon being to hide his Talons when he goes abroad, that his Tracts may not be known, which he defaces with his Tail.

Of these twenty eight Statues, there will be four at the four corners of the Garden-plot, each ten foot in height, representing four

Rapes.

The first is the Rape or carrying away by force of Proserpina by Pluto the God of Hell. The Sieur

Girardon made this Statue.

The second is the Rape of Orithya the Daughter of Eritheus by Boreas: the God of the Winds. Made by the Sieur de Mercy.

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The third is the Rape of Cybele by Saturn. Made by the Sieur Regnaudin.

The fourth is the Rape of Coronis by Neptune. Made by the Sieur

Baptiste Thuby.

In the walks of the same Gardenplot there will be plac't twenty sour
figures of white Marble, each of
seven soot in height, representing
by six times sour the sour Seasons
of the year; the sour parts of the
World; the sour Ages; the sour
kinds of Poesie; the sour parts of
the Day and Night; and the sour
Elements. The whole made by
the most skilful Carvers of the
Kingdom.

The Four Seasons.

The *Spring* is represented by a young Girl crowned with a Garland, carrying in each hand a Nosegay.

Som-

Summer is represented by Ceres, crowned with Ears of Corn.

Autumn is represented by Bacchus laden with Grapes, and crowned with Ivy, holding a Cup in his hand.

And Winter by an Old man, representing Saturn, who has Fire at his feet.

The four parts of the World.

Europe is represented by a Queen with a Horse.

Asia carries a Censer, to shew that she produces and supplies us with Persumes; she has a Camel by her side.

Africa is a Moor with a Ly-

America is a Woman adorn'd with Offrich Feathers, having a Crocodile by her side.

The four Ages.

The Golden Age is represented by a beautiful Girl crown'd with a Garland of flowers; she holds a Bee-hive in one hand, and with the other an Olive branch: These things signisse the union and peace

of the first Age.

The Silver Age, is a Girl less beautiful than the former, advantageously habited, deckt with Precious stones and Rearls; with the right hand she leans on a Ploughshare, and with her left she carries a Sheaf or bundle of ears of Wheat; which intimates to us, that men in that Age began to labour and cultivate the earth.

The Brasen Age is represented by a Woman armed, having a resolute Countenance, and her Headpiece crested with the head of a Lyon. We shall give it no other

explication than that which Ovid gives it in these two Verses.

This cruel age through an inhumane art.

Young Warrier: arm'd with Javelin, sword, and Dart.

The Iron Age is represented by a hideous Woman, who has a frightful aspect: she wears a Headpiece which has for Crest the head of a Wolf. She has in her right hand a Sword, and in the left hand a Shield, in the midst of which is painted Frand under the figure of a Monster which has the head of a Man, and the body of a Mermaid, who by her finging draws to her Passengers to devour them: This Statue has under its feet a Trophy of Arms with spoils taken in War.

Then Reason, Truth, and Justice sted away, And Lying, Fraud, and Malice bore the sway.

The four kinds of Poesie.

The Lyrick is represented under the figure of Apollo.

The Heroick under the figure of

a Hero.

The Pastoral is represented by a shepherd.

And the Satyrick by a Satyr.

The four parts of the Day and Night.

The East, or the Day break, is represented under the figure of a Woman, having a Star on her head, and a Cock at her feet: It is ordinarily represented by a beautiful Boy, who carries on his head Lucifer

fer, or the Star which gives tidings of the day: which made Petrark fay,

Short while before it's day this Amorous Star

Appears in th'East more bright than any are.

And the Prince of Poets Virgil:

Already on the tops of Rocks 'tis plain,

The Morning-flar brings day light in again.

The South

constant with the second · The South is represented by a young moorish Girl of a mean stature, having over her head a Sun, which darts down its Rays perpendicularly: She holds in her right hand an Arrow, and in her lelt asshrub.

The North.

The North is represented by a Manarmed.

The West.

The West is represented by an Old man who shews with his right hand the place where the Sun sets: He signifies a quiet and still Season, as may be seen by these Verses of ovid:

'Twas in a time when noise was calm and still, when rest and silence all the earth did sill.

The four Elements.

The Earth is represented by a Woman who holds a Hornof A-buudance; she has a Lyon at her feet.

The

The Water.

The Water is represented by another Woman crowned with Reeds, and pouring Water out of a Vessel.

The Air.

The Air is represented by a woman who carries a Rainbow, with Zephyrus's, and a Champleon at her feet.

The Fire.

The Fire is represented also by a woman, who carries Fire, and has a Salamander under her feet.

This is the end of what there is most remarkable at Versailles; for he that would describe all the particularities of this inchanted house, must make a great Volume. There

is nothing seen there which is not worthy of admiration. The things which appear there even the most common, would serve for Ornaments of the most beautiful Palaces of the world. The Fountains and Water - spouts are there in so great a number, and of different forts; the Garden-plots so exactly regular; the Paintings so beautiful; and the Statues so natural, and so excellently wrought, that unless they are seen, and some stay be made at Versailles to consider them, it is impossible to be able to conceive well their fineness and excellency. I hope nevertheless that the explication which I have now made will contribute notva. little to the satisfaction of your curiofity, since that by serving you as a Guide, it will pleasantly instruct you in the history of the greatest part of the figures which you will see; and withal in the

names

names of the excellent Artists who made them.

When all has been seen that there is in the Garden, a man may go and see the Vivarium which is on the lest side of the Canal, and the beautiful house of the Trianon, which is on the right side of the Canal.

In the Vivarium are seen many kinds of Animals which have been caused to be brought from Forein Countries, and a great number of divers kinds of Birds that are very rare: among which you may observe the Demoiselles, Ostriches, Cormorants, a white Crow, Ducks and Geese of divers kinds, which by the noise they make, verifie the stalian Proverb, which says,

D'oue è donne e ocche Non ve parole pocche.

The Water-spouts which are made

made there to spring up on all sides, make one beauty of the walk of the Vivarium.

The Trianon, which may be called the chief Ornament of Verlailles, is a house made after the manner of a Sea-snail, where there is a great number of very fine Look. ing-glasses, a pleasant Garden, a fine Orange grove, dreading no. thing but the Winter, which obliges it to keep in all its Perfumes for the Summer, the which it then freely diffuses round about. It's in. this place where the Zephyrus's perfume themselves, to glide afterwards pleasantly along the walks of Ver-Sailles to rejoyce by their pleasant. odours those that walk there.

An Historical Explication of what there is most remarkable in the house of Monsieur at Saint Cloud.

IF, Gentlemen, you have had much pleasure in Versailles, you shall have still even to Paris; for in returning hither, besides the walks of Trees which guard you from the rays of the Sun, you will meet on your way the house of Monsieur at Saint Cloud: The Prospect is so beautiful, that you cannot but desire to go into it; you will see there very excellent Paintings, of the work of the Sieur Mignard, a very skilful Painter, and one of the best Genius's which we have.

When therefore you are gotten

within the Court of the house, you will see in the Pediment of the chief Front a Dyal unveiled by Time, with some Amours which represent the sour parts of the day.

On the Cornich which is born up by four Columns of the Corinthian Order, there is Strength, Prudence,

Riches, and War.

On the right wing of the house there are in Niches four figures, which represent Eloquence, Musick, Feisting, and Youth.

At the head of the right wing there are four figures, which represent Strength, the Spring, Policy,

and Abundance.

At the left wing of the house Playing is represented by the God Momus, Dancing by a Bacchant: there are also Peace and Riches.

At the head of the left wing there is Hunting represented by Meleager; Constancy by a woman

who

who holds a Heart in her hand; Recompence by Apollo; and Science by a Woman who holds a Book.

The Gallery of Apollo.

You will ascend next into the Gallery of Apollo. As you enter, the first Picture that is over the door represents the birth of Apollo and Diana: Wearied Latona begs of Jupiter vengeance on the base Peasants of Lycia; there is one stooping who disturbs the water, to hinder her from drinking, and another crouching behind her, who makes mops and mouths at this Goddess, threatning her.

At the other end of the Picture on the left hand, behind a figure lying down and fleeping, there are two little figures of a little male Peasant, and of a little femal Peasant; the first holds a Flute, and

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the second a Nest of Ducks.

Jupiter is there represented on a

Cloud.

And the ground of the Picture represents the sse of Delos, with the

Sea and a great Forest.

It's in that Island where Latona was delivered of Apollo and Diana on Palm tree: The Palm tree signifies the victory which she gained over the hardships which the Jealousie of Juno had forct her

upon.

By Latona the Fable understands Vertue; which in despite of
the Jealousie of Riches signified
by Juno, brings forth the beautiful
light of the Day, and that of the
Night: This Nymph is made by
the Mistress of Jupiter, because
God loves Vertue, and puts light
in its heart and understanding,
which it does not bring forth but
by pain and labour, and after having gain'd a glorious victory.

By the Peasants of Lycia who disturbed her water, ought to be understood the rascally sort of People, who ordinarily insult over and despise unfortunate Vertue. If Jupiter changed them into Frogs, it means that God leaves such people to wallow in the dirt like Frogs.

In the great Cieling piece of this Gallery, the rifing Sun is represented issuing from his Palace, accompanied with the hours of the Day, driving away and resolving the Vapour which forms the obscurity; he has a child goes before him, who carries a little Horn sull of Fruits, which represents Abundance.

Lower, beneath, there are two little Zephyrus's, who pour down the morning Dew upon the coming of the rays of the Sun. Aurora appears in her Chariot, before whom a flying Cupid strews Flows

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ers. Above, a little before Aurora, the Morning-star is represented by a beautiful young man who carries it on his head, a Rod in his hand, driving away the night and all the Constellations before him: the Swallow, which is the bird that sings before day-break, slies a little before,

At the end of the Picture appears Night in a rapid and violent posture, drawing with her two hands her Veils, and accompanied with her two Children, whereof one represents the sleep of life, and the other that of death.

The four Seasons of the year are there represented.

The Spring.

The Spring is represented by the Feasts or the Marriage of Flora and Zephyrus: that Goddess appears on a bed, Zephyrus by her, who

who caresses her with one hand, and shews with the other an extream earnestness to pour on her Flowers, which one of the hours of the day brings in a little Horn of Abundance. Three Cupids are about her: there is one who holds a basket of Flowers, another who takes off them to throw confusedly on Flora; and a third sitting by another little basket of Flowers, wherewith he makes Garlands.

On the left side of the Goddess n the side of the Picture, three Amours more are seen: the sirst siting on the skin of a He-goat, which he pierces to draw Wine hence; the second who receives t in a Cup of Gold; and the third eated lower, holding a Vessel bewixt his legs, who receives also he wine which issues from this He-goat arch-wise, and with vioence.

On her right side behind Zephy-

rus, there are two other Cupids, whereof one represents Winter, who holds a lighted Torch; and the other plays with a lirtle bird, which

he has let fly. In the forepart of the Picture is a figure which kneels, and gathers Flowers to carry them to Flora; and on the other side before the Picture of Flora, in the forepart of the Picture, is a figure seen by the back, which takes with one hand Flowers in a basket, and with the other takes Flowers from on the bed of Flora; and near her there are Vessels represented with a Table set with a small Treat. There is the ancient figure of the Salt which was used in all her meals, being in the form of a small Pyramid, with Cakes and other Fruits.

In the ground of the Picture the little figures appearing at a distance, represent Bacchants, with Catyrs, who come to rejoyce them selves at the Feasts of Flora. The

The Summer.

The Summer is represented by the Feasts of Ceres.

The Virgins who carry the Statue of this Goddess in devotion among Corn for the Fertility of the Earth, make a stop, having set down their Trivet and brought their offerings, which are a Sow and a Sheep, to sacrifice them, about which they

are employ'd.

The foremost Figure seen by the back, is represented by the Sacrificer holding a Knife in the right hand, and in a posture of cutting the throat of the Sacrifice, at the instant that the Priestess pronounces the essential words of the Sacrifice, and at the same time that another Virgin pours Milk and Wine on the fire of the Trivet, which smoaks: the Virgins are followed by Bacchants with ancient Instruments; and whilst the Sacrifice is

making; the Harvest-People put themselves on their knees with Torches in their hands, in a posture of adoring the Goddes Ceres, which the Virgins carry on their ihoulders; and others present her theafs of Corn. The Painter, to shew the extream heat of the Summer, has represented the Dog-Star with a Gloud: This Dog-Star is a thirsty Dog regarding the Sun.

Autumn.

It is represented by the Feasts of

Bacchus, call'd Bacchanalia.

At his return from the Indies he found Ariadne all bedewed with Tears, whom wicked Thefeus had left alone in a defart Island.

The Painter represents in the midst of his Picture, Thefew and A. riadne in a Chariot drawn by Panthers, which are driven by two Cupids, seeming to comfort her by the joy which she ought to have for being near a God. There is represented an orderly march of Faunes and Bacchants, with the Javelin wrapt with Ivy in their hands, of whom one dances before the Chariot, beating a Drum; and another carries a Pannier of Grapes, feeming to be pleas'd by his smiling air, to see two little Children, one fallen asleep by the Vintage, and the other laughing at him.

This Company is followed by the good Father silenus, carried by Fannes; and all this Troop is deckt and crown'd with Vine and Ivy-

leaves.

The ground of the Picture represents a Sea, and a little Vessel appearing at a distance, which Ariadne shews to Bacchus, as an inconstant person, who has forsaken her: this is on the left.

On the right are represented the Trees of Autumn with Fruits. The persons marching in order, have Ti-F(23.

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gers skins about them. The Vizards and Drums which are there, denote the rejoycings at the Fealls of Bacchus.

The Winter.

The chief Figure of the Picture is represented by the Wind Boreas, with his two sons, Boreas on a great Cloud, his Cloak wrapt about his left arm, flying and blowing in a rage the Hail and Snow with his two Children, driving away the Sun, who goes to hide himself in the corner of the Picture. The Sun is almost offuscated by a thick and dark Cloud which pursues him.

Behind Boreas the seven Pleiades are represented, as well in humane Figures as in Stars, which resolve themselves into Water, and pour down Water from ancient Vessels.

In the forepart of the Picture the Earth is represented begging relie of the Sun: Vulcan comes behind, offering her the Fire of the Earth, there being now none but him who can give her succour.

A River is there represented comewhat at a distance under a Grotto with its Wine in it; the water which issues from it being all

congeal'd into Ice.

The Ground of the Picture is a Sea agitated, full of Storms, where are some Vessels in danger; the Sea-coast is frozen, and there are on the Banks Water-fowl.

We' see Parnassus and Apollo, who invite to them Musick, pointing at a Nightingale sitting on the branch of a Laurel-tree (as the symbol of Musick) of which he presends that men hearken to all the notes, to cause them to be observed.

The two Children which are in the forepart of the Picture, one which trikes with a Hammer on an An-wil, and the other which is taking.

a Hammer out of a pair of Scales to strike with him, denote Measure; and the Scales which are beneath the Anvil on the ground, denote Justice.

The Swans which are on the left fide represent the voice of the

Poets.

As to the four little Pictures of the Vault, of the two on the two sides of the great Seiling-piece, that which is on the right regarding the great Seiling-piece, is Clymene, who presents her Son Phaeton to Apollo for him to own him.

That which is on the left reprefents Apollo with Vertue, flying in the Air, shewing Vertue, who is seated beneath on Clouds, his Seat all full of light, which is the place where he will have her to sit: The Amour of Vertue is by, seated on Clouds, holding great branches of Laurels, which serve but as an Ornament to the Picture.

Those

Those of the ends, that on the right regarding the great Seiling-piece, represents Circe the Daughter of the Sun, seated on Clouds; a Cupid near her, who presents her a great number of Herbs.

And on the right at the other end, bold Icarus is represented, with his Wings melting, in the posture of a man frighted, who finds himself falling from the course of the

Sun on the Earth.

The eight bas Reliefs of this beautiful Gallery are set in great

round gilded Frames.

The first, which is as you enter into the Gallery on the right, represents Apollo before the Porch of his Temple, his Tripod before him, the Sibyl on her knees she wing him a handful of Sea sands in her hand, and begging him to make her live as many years as she carries grains of Sand.

The fecond on the lest, repre-

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fents Apollo feated on a Terrass, the God Esculapius his Son on his knees near him, leaning on a great Book which is on the knees of Apollo, a great number of Plants before them which issue from the Earth, and which Apollo shews him to teach him Physick.

There are two other bas Reliefs greater than the former, which extend themselves even to half the Gallery: The one represents the desiance of Marsias to Apollo, Midas near them, who is the Judge. The other on the right opposite toit, represents Apollo, who causes

Marsias to be flea'd.

There are four other bas Reliefs which make the other half of the Gallery: The first on the right represents the change of Coronis; and the second on the lest, that of Daphne into a Laurel-tree: And at the end of the Gallery at the two sides of the Picture of Parnassur, on the

the right, is the change of Cypariffus into a Cypress tree; and on the left, that of Clytia into the Sunflower.

From the Gallery you go to the great Hall, where are represented the Amours of Venus and of Mars; which is a great story, whereof the Painting is very excellent.

The Explication of the Amours of Mars and Venus, which are in the great Hall.

It is good to know, for the better understanding of this Explication, that Calus was the first Deity which the Pagans knew: The second was Saturn his Son, who represented Time. It's for this reason that he is painted as an old man, with Wings on his back, and a Sithe in his hand: he has Wings to significe that Time runs on so swift, that it seems to slie; he is painted as an old man,

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because he was created the first; and they give him a Sithe, to shew that like a Mower he cuts all down, and destroys all that Nature produces. He was represented also devouring one of his Children, to shew that he destroys that which even himself has engendred: and that his Father Celus should not engender other Gods more than himself, he took from him with his Sithe the power of engendring: The Bloud falling into the Sea, and being mixt with the froth which is made of its Waves against the Rocks of the Island of Cyprus, engendred Venus, who liv'd in this Island; which gave her the name of Cyprus, and Cyprian Venus.

This Goddess was the Wife of Vulcan, who was the God of Smiths. They had Cupid, who has been taken for the God of Love, or for

Love it self.

Mars was the God of War, Son of

of the Goddess Juno, Wife of Jupiter, who through the Jealousie which she conceived, for that Jupiter her Husband had all alone engendred the Goddess Minerva in his brain: She would likewise engender alone, which she did by touching a Flower by the counsel of the Goddess Flora.

Minerva is the Goddess of Arts and Sciences; she presides over defensive Arms, and then she is called Bellona: She issued from the brain

of Jupiter.

The true sence of this Fable is, that by Jupiter must be understood the supreme Deity, who by his wisdom has settled the conditions of things, and has given to men Science and the invention of Arts, and the means to defend themselves against those who would disturb them, in whatsoever manner it be.

The Goddess Juno in this place is

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with Jealousie, have engendred Mars, who signifies War, which disturbs the quiet of States, which are represented by the Goddess Mineral War is made very often by the counsel of Youth, signified by Florage

ra, who is the Goddess of it.

Mars became amorous of the Goddess Venus; the Sun, who was the Nephew of Vulcan, discover'd to him the wanton Loves of Venus his Wife with Mars; whereupon Vulcan being toucht with Jealousie, made a Net so subtle and delicate, with so much skill and artistice, at the places where Mars had meetings with his Wife, that they were there both taken, and expos'd to the derision and laughter of all the Gods.

The meaning of the Fable is, that by Mars we must understand Men of War, and by Venus Plea-sure; which the Poets have seign'd to

inhabit the Isle of Cyprus, because it was at that time the most fertile and most voluptuous of all the Levant. It's also on this occasion that the Poets have said, that when Souldiers yield themselves to be overcome with Pleasures, they come to a relaxation of that warlike vertue which they had acquired in Military Discipline; and as effeminacy over-rules them, the friends of the contrary party, signified by the sun, who discovers the Amours of Venus to Vulcan, seeing their disorder, give notice to their Enemies; who finding them in the arms of Pleasure, defeat them, and cut them in pieces. Thus they find themselves taken in the Net, where the fire of Lasciviousness, which is the Husband of Pleasure, has caught them, and where afterward those who have escap'd death, are expos'd. to the laughter of the great men of the World, fignified by the Gods, who

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who derided Mars and Venus taken in the Net made by Vulcan: and History is fill'd with an infinite number of the like Examples.

Vulcan is made the Husband of Venus, to shew that Fire is insepass rable from Pleasure, which has always somewhat that is deform'd, and is the cause that Arms are often made on her occasion. It's for this reason that Vulcan made the Arms of Eneas, of whom Venus said her self the Mother. And the Fable shews in this place, that Anchises the Father of Aneas, was very rich and powerful, and that he lived in a Country very much abounding in all that might serve for pleasure; and his Wife was doubtless one of the fairest of her time.

The Arms of the Grecians and Irojans, were they not forg'd by Vulcan, that is to say, by the Fire of Pleasure, by reason of Paris's carrying away of Helena by force? If

Vulcan be painted lame, holding a woodden leg in his hand, it's because the Fire cannot support it self and subsist, without Wood: and if he be made the God of Smiths, it's because he serves to forge Arms, and to make the points of the Arrows of Cupid, or of Love; there being nothing so certain, as that it is the Fire of Pleasure which whets and makes the first points of Love.

We see moreover in these Amours of Mars and Venus, this God of War, who is disarm'd by many little Cupids, at the time that he comes to pay a Visit to his Mistriss: which shews that Pleasure disarms and renders effeminate the most ge-

nerous hearts.

Thus you have the true explication of the Amours of Venus and of Mars; and if any one asks whence I have taken it, I answer him, that it was from the brain of the Goddess Minerva, who of late threw

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on the Earth this production of her understanding, for the first who could find it; and Chance has hap pily made me light upon it to put it in this place.

Afterward as you enter into the Garden by the great Stair-case, you see there a Cleopatra and a Bacchus; at the side of it four little Water-spouts; and at the bottom of this Stair-case a great Bason, where there are two great Water-spouts.

There are feen round about this great Bason the four Elements re-

presented by twelve Deities.

The first Figure is Vulcan, who has at his feet a Head-piece made by himself, and Iron-bars, a Hammer, and the Net with which he took Venus and Mars lying together; which the Sun, who sees all things, had discovered to him: he leans with his lest hand on an Apvil, and with his right he strokes his Beard, and looks on Venus, repros-

ching.

ching her as it were for her Infideli-

ty.

The second Figure is Venus, who looks on Vulcan, and presents him Necklaces of Pearl as it were to appeale him.

The third Figure is Mars: those are the three Deities which repre-

sent the Fire.

The fourth and the fifth reprefenting the one the River Stix, the other Galathea: And the fixth which represents Neptune, are the Deities of the Water.

The seventh, the eighth, and the ninth, which represent, the fust Geres with ears of Corn, the second Bacchus, and the third Flora: These are the Deiries of the Earth.

The tenth Figure is Iris, who has little wings at her heels and on her head: She is the Messenger of Juno, as Mercury is of Jupiter.

The eleventh and the twelfth Figures are Zephyrus and Juno: These

last

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last are the Deities of the Air.

So that the partition of the four Elements is made by these twelve Statues.

The fix which are on the fide of the House, represent the Air and the Fire.

The other six opposite represent the Earth and the Water; made by the Sieur de Cadeinne.

Finally, there is seen in this beautiful Garden very fine Cascades, and an infinite store of other excellent things, which are not here discover'd, I having propos'd to my self onely what there is most considerable to be seen in this charming and delightful Seat.

A compendious Inventory of the Treasury of St. Denis, where the Pieces are plac'd in the following order, which are shewn in each Press for the satisfaction of Curious Persons.

Firft,

In the first Press near the entrance of the Treasury.

Great, very beautiful, and pretious Cross of massie Gold, all cover'd before with Rubies, Saphirs, Emeralds, and Oriental Pearl. There is shewn under the rich little Cross which is in the midst of it, the length of a foot and a half of the

the wood of the true Cross. It was sent in the year 1205. to Philip Auguste King of France, by Bandouin Emperour of the East, and fince given to the Church of St. Denis by the same Philip Auguste.

A little Crucifix inchast in Gold, very delicately made of the wood of the true Cross, by Pope Clement the Third's own hands, who gave it to the faid Philip Auguste, and his Majesty to the glorious Martyr St.

Denis.

The Reliquary of the same King all deck'd with Stones set in Gold: There is shewn under the Crystal a little Vial in which there is of the Bloud and Water which ran from the fide of our Saviour, when it was pierc'd with the Lance: There is moreover some of the Milk, and of the Gown of our Lady: A Finger of the Apostle St. Thomas; another Finger of St. Medard; and the Myrrh which the Kings offered to

our Saviour: and twenty eight o-

One of the Nails wherewith our saviour was fasten'd to the Cross, sent to Charlemagne by Constantine the Fifth, Emperour of Constantinople, and since given to the Church of St. Denis by Charles the bald, the Grand-son of the said Charlemagne: It is inchast in a great silver Tabernacle gilt and garnish'd with pretious Stones, made by the Monks.

An Image of the holy Virgin of Silver gilt, which holds with one hand a little Reliquary, in which is feen a piece of the Swadling cloaths wherewith the wrapt our Saviour in the Manger of Bethleem: given by Guy de Monceaux Abbot of St.

Denis.

One of the Pitchers in which our Saviour chang'd Water into Wine at the Marriage of Cana in Gali-lee.

A great Image of our Lady, of Silver

Silver gilt, holding in the right hand a Flower-de-luce of Gold, in which there are of her Hairs and Gloaths: given by Jane D'Eureux Queen of France.

Another great Image of St. John the Evangelist, of Silver gilt, holding with one hand a Crystal Tube set in Gold, in which is seen a Tooth of the said holy Apostle; caus'd to be made and put in the Treasury

by the Mouks of St. Denis.

A fine Reliquary, in which is preferv'd under a piece of Rock-crystal, some of the Bones of St. Placidius the Disciple of St. Bennet, and of his Sister St. Flavia a Roman Lady, who were martyr'd together above eleven hundred years since: caus'd to be made and put in the Treasury by the Monks.

The Bones of an Arm of the great Captain and Martyr St. Enflachius, set in silver gilt, enrich'd with precious Stones: caus'd to be made

and put in the Treasury by the Monks.

A little Reliquary, under the Crystal of which is seen a Bone of St. Giles, Abbot: put in the Trea-

fury by the Monks.

A fine Reliquary of Silver gilt, in the form of a Chappel, in which are seen parcels of all the Relicks which are in the holy Chappel of Paris, set in Gold: given by Jane D'Eureux Queen of France.

The Arm-bone of the good old man St. Simeon, who receiv'd our Saviour at the Temple; his Reliquary is all of Gold, and enrich'd with precious Stones: made and put in the Treasury by the Monks.

A Reliquary of Silver gilt, representing the martyrdom of St. Hippolitus, of whom there is a Bone in it: made and put in the Trea-

fury by the Monks.

The two Crowns which Henry the Fourth caus'd to be made for his Coronation, whereof one is of Silver gilt, and the other of Gold enamell'd.

The Scepter and the Hand of Justice of the same Henry the Fourth.

The two Miters which the Abbots of S. Denis made use of when they were Regulars; whereof the one is of Embroidery, and the other has a ground of Pearls, enricht with a great number of pretious Stones set in Gold: made by the Abbots.

The Silver gilt Crosser which the same Abbots used: made by them. The Chanters Staff, the upper end of which is adorn'd with many pretious Stones: by the Monks.

In the Second Press.

A great Image representing half the body of St. Hillary, Bishop of Poitiers, and Doctor of the Church, whose Mitre and the west of his Cope about his neck, are all cover'd with very pretious Stones and Oriental Pearl, set in Gold: the Head of the said Saint is within that of the Image, and the Bones of one of his Arms in a Crystal, which the same Image holds betwixt one of its hands. This Work comes from the Abbots and the Monks.

A great Cross all of Gold and pretious Stones, called the Cross of St. Laurence, because in it there is a Bar of the Iron-gate on which this holy Martyr was roasted. It is the Present of Charles the bald.

A filver Reliquary gilt, at the upper part of which is seen a Finger, both slesh and bone, of the Apostle St. Bartholomew, set in a Crystal garnisht with Gold. Philip Auguste gave it.

gilt, in which is seen, under a Crystal, one of the Shoulder-bones of St. John Baptist; sent by the Emperour

perour Heraclius to Dagobert, Founder of the Abbey and Church of St. Denis: inchast by the Monks.

A great Image of St. Nicolas of silver gilt, whose Mitre is enrich'd with pretious Stones, and at the foot of it there are Relicks of the Saint: given by the Reverend Abbot of St. Denis, Guy de Monceaux.

A Cross of silver gilt, adora'd with Emeralds, in which there is of the wood of the true Cross: It

comes from the Monks.

An Eye of the glorious Martyr & Bishop of Authun, St. Leger, set under a Crystal, held by an Image of the said Saint, the whole of silver gilt: This Work comes from the Monks.

An Image of St. Denis the Areopagite of filver gilt, at the bottom
of which there are of his Relicks:
The Abbot and the Monks caus'd
it to be made and put in the Treafury.

Another

Another Image of St. Catherine of silver gilt, at the bottom of which there are likewise of her Relicks: Given by Guy de Monceaux, Abbot Regular of St. Denis.

A fine Shrine for Relicks, made on the Model of the Church of Nostre-dame of Paris, all full of holy Relicks; and among others there are of seven Apostles: It is a Gist of Louis the Eleventh, King of France, to the Church of St. Denis.

A filver gilt Reliquary made in the form of a Trunk, in which are seen some of the bones of the Prophet Isaim, who liv'd about six hundred years before the birth of our Saviour: Caus'd to be made and put in the Treasury by the Monks.

Another Reliquary of the same matter and fashion as the sormer, where there is a bone of the blessed Martyr St. Pantaleon: Made by the

Monks.

A little Crystal Reliquary ser in filver, in which there are of the Hairs of St. Margnerite: Made by the Monks.

The Leprous Scurf which our Saviour took from the face of the Leper, whom he cur'd in proof of the miraculous Dedication made by himself of the Church of St. Denis : The said Leprous Scurf is under a Crystal inchast in filver.

A Manuscript Missal written above eight hundred years since, cover'd with filver, and on one fide are seen the Images of a Crucifix, of the Virgin, and of St. John, in Ivory, set round with Pearls and pre-

A very ancient Book cover'd with Ivory, bordered with filver, containing the Gospels written in letters of gold and filver on fkins of a Purple-colour.

An Image of our Lady, which is of Ivory, crown'd with Gold en-

rich'd with pretious Stones, and ex-

cellently well made.

Two little Vessels very pretious, call'd Suger's Pots, because they were given him by Louis the Seventh; whereof one is of Rock-Crystal, the other of a Beril, cut with the point of a Diamond.

The two Crowns of Louis the Thirteenth; whereof one is of Gold, the other of Silver: They

ferv'd at his Goronation.

In the third Press.

A golden Head of the great St.

Denis the Areopagite, Apostle of
France, and Patron of the place;
whose Mitre also of Gold is all cover'd with very pretious Stones,
and Oriental Pearls: the whole
born up by two great Angels of
silver gilt. This very pretious
Work was caus'd to be made by
Matthew de Vandosme, Abbot Regular of St. Denis. G 3 The

The Chalice and the little Vessels for holding Wine and Water, which the same St. Denis made use of at the Sacrifice of the Mass, about sisteen hundred and sisty years since; the whole of Rock-Grystal enchas'd in silver, and the Chalice enrich'd with pretious Stones.

The upper end of the Cross of the same Saint, which was but of wood; it has since been caus'd to be cover'd with Gold and pretious

Stones.

His Pontifical Ring of Gold, having in the midst of it a beautiful Saphyr set round with many other Stones.

The Clasp of his Cope.

The Staff which he carried with him in his Travels, it is of wood; but since it has been caus'd to be cover'd with silver, and the upper part of it to be adorn'd with Crystals and other pretious Stones: His Ink-horn, Chest, and Cornet, made after the Grecian fashion.

A Book of Vellam, cover'd with Ivory and edg'd with filver and Pretious stones, containing the Works of the same St. Denis, commented and written by St. Maximus's own hand; sent to St. Denis by Manuel Paleologue the second of the name,

Emperour of the East.

The right Hand of the Apostle St. Thomas, both sless and bone, very richly inchas'd in Gold, beset with Diamonds, Rubies, Emeralds, and Oriental Pearls: sent to St. Denis by John Duke of Berry, by way of acknowledgment for some Relicks which the Abbot and the Monks had given him to put in a Church which he had caus'd to be built, bearing the name of the said Saint.

The Chin of St. Louis King of France, in a Reliquary of filver gilt, fupported by his fon Philip the Third, and his grandchild Philip the Fourth, call'd the Fair, whose G 4 Crowns

Crowns are of Gold enrich'd with Pretious stones: Caus'd to be made and put in the Treasury by the Abbot Giles of Pontoise and the Monks.

At the foot of the said Reliquary is seen another also of silver gilt, containing a Bone of St. Louis Archbishop of Tholoze grand Nephew of the King St. Louis, supported by a Figure of Giles of Pontoise, Abbot of St. Denis, vested with his Pontisscal Habits, with a Miter cover'd with Pretious stones: given by the same Abbot.

The Hand of Justice of the same

King St. Louis, of silver gilt.

A little Reliquary in the form of a Hand, of filver gilt, in which there is a Bone of St. Denis the Areopagite. This Piece belong'd to the Oratory of St. Louis.

The Cup out of which the same St. Louis drank, made of Tamariskwood garnisht, with a foot of silver gilt, enamell'd and deckt with

Flower-

Flower-de-luces of Gold, with an-L. crown'd.

The Sword which the same St. Louis made use of against the Turks in his Voyage of the Holy Land.

The Crown of the same Saint all of Gold, and very rich Jewels, there being in it, among others, a Ruby and a Saphyr of extraordinary bigness, and of an inestimable value.

The Gold-Ring of the same St.

Louis, all deckt with Flower-deluces, garnisht with a great squareSaphyr, on which is grav'd an Image
with an S. and an L. which significa
Sigillum Ludovici, because the Saint
made use of it to seal his Letters.

A very fine Stone of Azure set in Gold, on one side of which is the Image of our Saviour; and on the other that of our Lady, in Relief.

The Clasp of a Cope given by Anne de Bretagne Queen of France, entilht and adorn'd with a very sair Jacinth set in a Beazil of Gold, sup-

G 5

ported

ported by two Hermines of Gold enamell'd. This Piece is of great value.

A rich Vial of an Onix, garnisht

with filver gilt.

A great and very beautiful piece of Rock-crystal enchast in a great circle of gold, enricht with Pretious stones, through which are seen the Images of the Crucifix, of the holy Virgin, and of St. John, very industriously ingrav'd in the backpart of the said Crystal.

A Chalice of a very ancient make, the bowl of which is of an Oriental Agate, very beautiful, and well cut: The said Bowl is garnisht above and beneath with silver gilt, and enricht with many other Jew-

els.

The Patine of the said Chalice is of a beautiful green Porphyre, marke with little spots, semé, with little Fishes of gold, edg'd with gold, and enricht with Pretious stones.

A beautiful Camahieu of a white Agate, on which is seen the Effigies of the Queen of Saba, who came to see Solomon at Jerusalem.

A Drinking cup made of a beautiful Oriental Agate, perfectly well cut, and enchast in filver with many

Pretious stones.

The two Crowns of Louis the Fourteenth, which were made use of at his Coronation; the one is of silver gilt, and the other of gold.

In the fourth Press.

A great Image of St. Bennet to half his body, of filver gilt, whose Miter and embroider'd Border about his neck, are all cover'd with Jewels set in gold: betwixt his hands there is a Crystal, in which is seen the bone of one of the arms of the said Saint; given with the hand of St. Thomas before-mentioned, by John Duke of Berry, and on the same occasion.

A great Gross of massie Gold, made by St. Esay: it is enricht with a great number of Oriental Pearls, and other very Pretious stones, and among others with a very great and very fine Oriental Amethist: it belong'd to Charlemagne, and was given to St. Denis by his Grandchild Charles the bald.

The Skreen or Reliquary of charlemagne all of Gold, and with a great number of very Pretious Jewels, and great Oriental Pearls; at the foot of which are seen, under a Crystal, three bones of the arms of the Saints George, Theodor, and Apollinarius.

The Crown of the same Charlemagne all of Gold, and very fine Jewels; it is carried to Rheims to be used at the Coronations of our Kings, with the other Royal Orna-

ments following; to wit,

The Scepter, the Hand of Justice,

and the Spurs of the said Charlemagne, all of Gold; his Sword, whereof the hilt and gard are of gold, and the upper part of the scabbard enricht with Pretious stones; the Clasp of his Royal Mantle all of Gold, Diamonds, Rubies, and Oriental Pearls; and the Book containing the Ceremonies which are observed at the said Coronations.

The Crown of Jane D'Eureux Queen of France, Wife of Charles the Fourth, all of Gold and fine Pretious stones: it is made use of at the Coronation of the Queens, which is perform'd in the Church of Saint Denis.

A beautiful Vessel of Rock-crystal very well cut, enchast in silver gilt, and enricht with Jewels. Given by Suger Abbot of St. Denis.

A beautiful little Image of the ho-

ly Virgin, of fine Amber.

An excellent Vessel of Porphyre, adorn'd

adorn'd with a head and two wings of an Eagle, of filver gilt. by the same Abbot Suger.

A Chalice with its cover, of filver enamell'd. Given by King

Charles the Fifth.

A Vessel inclining to the fashion. of a great Drinking-cup, made of a Chrysolite, and enchast in Gold by St. Eloy. Given by the same Abbot Suger.

A very fine Book containing the Gospels of the Feasts of the year, which is made use of at great Solemnities: it is cover'd with golden Plates, and enricht with a great many Jewels, and great Oriental Pearls. Caus'd to be made by the Monks.

Another beautiful Veffel of an Oriental Agate, esteem'd beyond; all value, for its antiquity, its largeness, and the beauty of its work. Ptolomy Philadelphus caus'd it to be made about eighteenhundred years fince.

fince. It's a Present of Charles the

Third, surnam'd the simple.

Another very beautiful Vessel of the Chalcedony-stone, garnisht with silver, and enricht with Jewels and Oriental Pearls. Given by Abbot Suger.

A beautiful, great, very ancient, and curious Vessel of rich Crystal, which was us'd in the Temple of Solomon. Given by Charles the

Bald.

A great Cup of Gold and Pretious stones, which belong'd to the same solomon.

The Picture of Nero in a Camabieu of an Agate, marvelously rare for its different colours, all natural.

A tawny Chalcedony, represen-

ting the head of Cæsar.

Another Chalcedony, which Jewellers call Clairette, by reason of its colour, representing the head of a Child.

A little Idol of Apollo, grav'd on an Amethist, set in Gold, enricht with Pretious stones.

In the fifth Press.

A Shrine for Relicks, of silver gilt, adorn'd with Crystals, in which are the Relicks of St. Denis Bishop of Corinth, which were brought to St. Denis by the Gardinal Peter of Capua, Legat of the holy See, Anno 1215, in the time, and by the order of Pope Innocent the Third.

In the sixth Press.

A fine Shrine for Relicks, of filver gilt, enricht with Pretious stones, in which repose the Relicks of St. Louis King of France.

In the Seventh Pross.

In this Press are kept ordinarily during

during the life of each King, his Royal Habits which serv'd at his Coronation; as at present those of our Invincible Adeodatus Louis the Fourteenth, crown'd at Rheims An. 1654, are there kept.

In the eighth Press.

A Unicorn's Horn fix foot and a

half in length.

The Talon of a Griffen of so prodigious a bigness, that in its cavity it holds a pint of the measure of St. Denis, which is very great. This Piece and the precedent were sent to Charlemagne, An. 807, by Aaron King of Persia, and since given to St. Denis by Charles the Bald.

Two Teeth of a Sea-Horse of a prodigious bigness, sent to St. Denis

by David King of Scotland.

The Lanthorn of Malchus which ferv'd for the taking of our Saviour in the Garden of Olives; which the

Vulgar call Judas's Lanthorn, because he made himself in that Adventure the Guide of the company.

A Play of Chests of Ivory, which formerly the Emperour Charlemagne

made use of.

One of the Hunting-horns of Rowland, Nephew of the said Char-

lemagne.

The Sword of Turpin, who from being a Monk of St. Denis, having been made Archbishop of Rheims, bore Arms afterward with his Uncle Charlemagne against the Infidels.

The Sword of Jane D' Arc, Pucelle

of Orleans.

The Effigies of Francis Dolphin,

eldest Son of Francis the First.

The Effigies of the Duke of Alencon, Son of Henry the Second, and Brother of Charles the Ninth, and of Henry the Third. In the other Presses above are the following Figures of the Kings of France drawn to the life, and vested in their Royal Robes.

In the first, that of Charles the Eighth, Son of Louis the Eleventh, and that of Louis the Twelfth call'd the Father of the People.

In the second, that of Francisthe First, and of Henry the Second his

Son.

In the third, that of Charles the

Ninth, and of Henry the Third.

In the fourth, that of Henry the Fourth, and of Louis the Thirteenth, with the Gantlets, Spurs, and Headpiece which serv'd for their Funeral-Pomp.

In the Hall of the Treasury is seen still the Looking-glass of the Poet

Virgil.

140 The Treasury of St. Denis.

Tradition Section

And a Chair of Gopper gilt, which was us'd by King Dagobert, Founder of the Abbey of St. Denis, who liv'd above a thousand years since.

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THE END:

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OF

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